measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women and other vulnerable sections of society. The measures suggested include:

* sensitizing of police officials charged with the responsibility of protecting the women
* vigorously enforce the existing legislation relating to dowry violence
* set up women police cells in police stations and exclusive women police stations
* provide institutional support to the victims of violence
* provide counseling to victims of rape
* take measures to eliminate trafficking in women. States have also been advised to constitute State Advisory Committees to advise on trafficking matters
* ensure wider recruitment of women police officers
* train police personnel in special laws dealing with atrocities against women
* setting up of Fast Track Courts
* setting up of Family Courts
* appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers and notification of Rules under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

Process of child adoption

450. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that child adoption in the country is fraught with unnecessarily lengthy and complicated legal process deterring the potential adopters;

(b) whether Government would enact a uniform law that govern the process of child adoption in the country covering all citizens irrespective of faith they subscribe to; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The procedures governing in-country adoption and inter-country adoption have been provided under "Guidelines for In-country Adoption 2004 and Guidelines Adoption from India 2006" respectively. These guidelines replaced the earlier guidelines in order to bring more simplicity and transparency in adoption procedures. However, these guidelines are subject to regular review in order to make them more efficient and child friendly. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006 along with Model Rules, 2007 under this Act, also seeks to provide a child friendly and simple adoption framework. Further, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006 provides no restriction to adoption on account of sex, religion of the child or prospective parents.

Retention of orphans in care homes and orphanages

451. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that care homes and orphanages keep children upto the age of 18 years only and if so, what are the reasons therefor;